



Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts

PRESS RELEASE

For more information:
Ashley Stollar
ashley.stollar@gaaoc.us
404-656-6783

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Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference to Tackle September 11th Victim Compensation Fund

(Atlanta) The 18th Annual Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Institute and 2011 Neutrals' Conference will be held Friday, December 9, 2011, at the State Bar of Georgia Conference Center in Atlanta. The mission of the Institute is to enlighten Georgia ADR professionals and provide them educational opportunities from national experts. Expecting over 300 professionals, this Institute offers six hours of continuing legal education, including one and a half ethics hours for attorneys.

Ms. Marilyn Berger, Professor at Seattle University School of Law and Executive Producer, Writer, and Co-Director of the groundbreaking documentary, *Out of the Ashes: 9/11*, will be part of a panel discussing the ethical issues that arose when compensating the September 11th victims and their families. Joining her on the galvanizing panel will be: Ms. Deborah Greenspan, Esq., Deputy Special Master for the September 11 Victim Compensation Fund; Mr. Alan E. Gross, mediator for 9/11 victims; and moderator Mr. Amber Gallman, Esq., Program Director, DeKalb County Courts Dispute Resolution Center.

Mr. Shinji Morokuma, Director for the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution, shared the importance of ADR in Georgia. "Georgia's registered mediators and arbitrators help resolve tens of thousand of legal disputes every year without litigation. Their hard work benefits taxpayers, by reducing the need to pay for more judges, staff, and courtrooms as Georgia's population grows; litigants, by offering effective, empowering alternatives to litigation that save time, money and energy; attorneys, by giving them more tools to solve their clients' problems; judges and juries, by clearing dockets to concentrate their efforts on cases that truly need attention; and the courts, by helping the judiciary use its resources more efficiently."

The Institute is co-sponsored by the Dispute Resolution Section of the State Bar of Georgia, the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution, and the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. Registration is open at iclega.org.
